**READ TO DISCOVER**:

1. How does the FAO use staff to transmit information?
2. What are the responsibilities of FAO?

**Food and Agriculture Committee**

Committee Description

Established in 1945 FAO has representatives of all 192 members and is the main forum for discussing issues that related to food and agriculture. The fundamental goal of the FAO is to lead international efforts to defeat hunger. FAO serves both developed and developing countries and acts as a non-binding neutral forum where all nations meet as equals to negotiate agreements and debate policy. It encourages and supports developing countries and countries in transition to modernize and improve agriculture, forestry and fisheries practices and ensure good nutrition for all. The industrialized countries, development banks and other sources provide funds to support FAO’s projects and it is the FAO’s responsibility to manage them

The FAO has four main activities:

* providing information
* sharing policy expertise
* providing a meeting place for nations
* and bringing knowledge to the field

The committee uses the expertise of staff - agronomists, foresters, fisheries and livestock specialists, nutritionists, social scientists, economists, statisticians and other professionals - to collect, analyze and disseminate data that aids development. In order to share information and expertise, the FAO publishes and distributes many newsletters, reports, books, magazines and CDs.

In crisis situations, the FAO collaborates with the World Food Programme and other humanitarian agencies to protect rural livelihoods and help people to rebuild their lives.

The responsibilities of FAO include helping developed and developing countries to improve their agricultural resources and. Although FAO helps both developed and developing countries FAO focuses on developing countries. They help developing countries to use their agricultural resources to better their population and economical status.